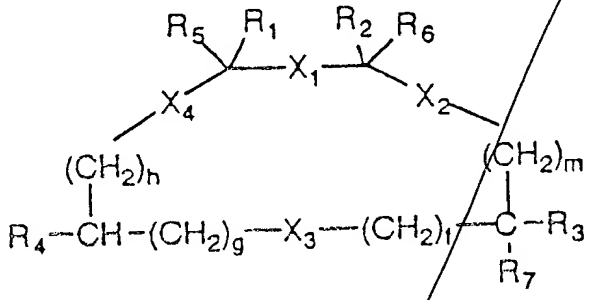
IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend Claims 1-3, 5-13 and add Claim 15 under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.121(a) as follows:

1. (Amended) A monocyclic compound having the general formula (I):



in which:

X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, which may be the same or different from one another, is selected from the group consisting of -CONR-, -NRCO-, -OCO-, -COO-, $-CH_2NR-$, $-NR-CH_2-$ and $CH_2–CH_2$ where R is H or a C_{1-3} alkyl or benzyl;

f,g, h, m, which may be the same or different form one another, represent a number selected from the group consisting of 0, 1 and 2;

R_1 and R_2, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a $–(CH_2)_r-$ Ar group, where r= 0, 1, 2 and where Ar is an aromatic group selected from the group consisting of: benzene, naphthalene, thiophene, benzothiophene, pyridine, quinoline, indole, furan, benzofuran, thiazole, benzothiazole, imidazole, and benzo-imidazole, said Ar group being possibly substituted with a maximum of two residues selected from the group consisting of C_{1-3} alkyl or halo-alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxyl, C_{2-4} amino-alkoxyl, halogen, OH, NH_2 and $NR_{13}R_{14}$ where R_{13} and R_{14}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

wherein R_3 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen,

-linear or branched alkyl having the formula C_nH_{2n+1}, with n= 1-5, cyclo-alkyl or alkylcyclo-alkyl groups having the formula C_nH_{2n-1}, with n= 5-9,

$–(CH_2)_r-Ar_1$, where r= 0, 1, 2 and where Ar_1 is an aromatic group selected from the group consisting of: benzene, naphthalene, thiophene, benzothiophene, pyridine,

quinoline, indole, furan, benzofuran, thiazole, benzothiazole, imidazole, and benzo-imidazole, said Ar_1 group being possibly substituted with a maximum of two residues selected from the group consisting of C_{1-3} alkyl or halo-alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxyl or amino-alkoxyl, halogen, OH, NH_2 and $NR_{13}R_{14}$, where R_{13} and R_{14}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl;

wherein R_4 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl,

- L-Q, where L is a chemical bond or a linear or branched C_{1-6} alkyl residue and Q is selected from the group consisting of:

i) H, OH, OR_9, NH_2, NR_9R_{10}, guanidine, sulfate, phosphonate and phosphate where R_9 and R_{10}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a hydrogen C_{1-3} alkyl group, C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-3} dihydroxyalkyl, C_{1-3}alkyl-$CONHR_{12}$, C_{1-3}alkyltetrazole, C_{1-3}alkyl-COOH or wherein R_9R_{10} joined together form with the N-atom a saturated 4-6 membered heterocycle possibly containing a further heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and wherein R_{12} is a mono-, di-, tri-glycosidic group possibly protected with one or more C_{1-3}-acyl groups or substituted with amino-groups or C_{1-3} acylamino-groups;

ii) COOH, tetrazole, SO_2NH_2, $SO_2NHCOOR_8$, $CONHR_8$, $NHCOR_8$, where R_8 represents a linear or cyclic C_{1-6} alkyl chain containing one or more polar groups selected from the group consisting of: OH, NH_2, $NR_{15}R_{16}$, COOH, $CONHR_{12}$, PO_3H, SO_3H and OR_{11} and where R_{15} and R_{16}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl group, and where R_{11} is a C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{2-4} amino-alkyl chain, R_{12} is a mono-, di-, tri-glycosidic group possibly protected with one or more C_{1-3}acyl groups or substituted with amino-groups or C_{1-3}acylamino-groups or $R_{15}R_{16}$ joined together form with the N-atom a saturated 4-6 membered heterocycle possibly substituted with C_{1-3}alkyl-groups or with saturated 4-6 membered heterocycle-groups containing at least an N-atom;

iii) $COOR_{17}$, $CONHR_{12}$, OR_{12} where R_{12} is a mono-, di-, tri-glycoside group possibly protected with one or more C_{1-3} acyl groups or substituted with amine or C_{1-3} acylamine groups and R_{17} is a group R_{12} as above defined or a group

C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkylphenyl, wherein the phenyl-group can be substituted with a group OH, NO_2, NH_2, CN, CH_3, Cl, Br;
R_5, R_6, R_7, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl group; or an acceptable salt or enantiomer thereof.

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2. (Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, in which:
f, g, h, m, which may be the same or different from one another, may be 0 or 1;
R_1 and R_2 which may be the same or different from one another, represent the side chain of a natural amino acid selected from the group consisting of tryptophan, phenylalanine, tyrosine and histidine, or the side chain of a non-natural amino acid selected from the group consisting of:
tryptophan and phenyl alanine, either mono- or di-substituted with residues selected from the group consisting of C_{1-3} alkyl or halo-alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxyl or amino-alkoxyl, halogen, OH, NH_2 and $NR_{13}R_{14}$, where R_{13} and R_{14}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl group;
R_3 is selected from the group consisting of:
– linear or branched alkyl having the formula C_nH_{2n+1} with n = 1-5 (selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl) cycloalkyl or alkylcycloalkyl of formula C_nH_{2n-1} with n = 5-9 (selected from the group consisting of: cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and methylcyclohexyl)
–$(CH_2)_r$-Ar_1, where r = 1 or 2 and where Ar_1 is an aromatic group selected from the group consisting of: α-naphthyl, β-naphthyl, phenyl, indole, said Ar_1 group being possibly substituted with a maximum of two residues selected from the group consisting of: C_{1-3} alkyl, CF_3, C_{1-3} alkoxyl, Cl, F, OH and NH_2;
R_4 represents an L-Q group where:
L is a chemical bond or CH_2, and
Q is selected from the group consisting of:
– OH, NH_2, NR_9R_{10} and OR_{11}, and where R_9 and R_{10}, which may be the same or different from one another, represent a hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl group, C_{1-3}hydroxy alkyl, C_{1-3}dihydroxyalkyl, C_{1-3}alkyl-$CONHR_{12}$ (wherein R_{12} is a monoglycosidic

group derived from D or L pentoses or hexoses (selected from the group consisting of ribose, arabinose. glucose, galactose, fructose, glucosamine and galactosamine and their N-acetylated derivatives)), C_{1-3}alkyltetrazole, C_{1-3}alkyl-COOH or wherein R_9R_{10} are joined together to form with the N atom a morpholine or a piperidine ring and where R_{11} is a C_{1-3} alkyl chain, or a C_{2-4} amino-alkyl chain;

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– $NHCOR_8$ wherein R_8 is a cyclohexane containing from 2 to 4 OH groups, a C_{1-6}alkylchain containing a polar group (chosen in the group consisting of NH_2, COOH, $CONHR_{12}$, (wherein R_{12} is as hereabove defined) or [1,4']bipiperidine)
– COOH, $COOR_{17}$ or $CONHR_{12}$, wherein R_{12} is as hereabove defined and R_{17} is as R_{12} or a group 4-nitrobenzyl.
– R_5, R_6, R_7 are H[
in which the carbon atom that carries the substituents R_3 and R_7 has configuration R.

3. A compound according to Claim 2 selected from:

(a) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(b) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(S)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(c) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_{11}$)-CH_2-NH]}
(d) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_4$(4-OCH_3))-CH_2-NH]}
(e) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp(5F)-Phe-[(R)- NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(f) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp(Me)-Phe-[(R)- NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(g) Cyclo{-Suc-Phe(3,4-Cl)-Phe-[(R)- NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(h) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe(3,4-Cl)- [(R)- NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(i) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Tyr-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-CH_2-NH]}
(j) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_3$-3,4-diCl)-CH_2-NH]}
(k) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH($CH_2C_6H_4$-4-OH)-CH_2-NH]}
(l) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}
(m) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-2-napthyl)-CH_2-NH]}
(n) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-indol-3-yl)-CH_2-NH]}
(o) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-5-F-indol-3-yl)-CH_2-NH]}
(p) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_4-3-F)-CH_2-NH]}
(q) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_3-3,4-diF-CH_2-NH]-}
(r) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_4-4-CF_3-CH_2-NH]-}
(s) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH_2-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-NH]}
(t) Cyclo{-Suc-Trp-Phe-[(S)-NH- CH_2-CH($CH_2C_6H_5$)-NH]}
(u) Cyclo{-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-(CH_2)$_3$CO-}

(v) Cyclo{-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-N(CH_3)]-(CH_2)$_3$CO-}

(w) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-NH_2]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(x) Cyclo{-Suc[1(R)-NH_2]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(y) Cyclo{-Suc[2(S)-NH_2]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(z) Cyclo{-Suc[2(R)-NH_2]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(aa) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-NH(CH_3)]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(ab) Cyclo{-Suc[1-COO(CH_2-C_6H_4-4-NO_2)]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(ac) Cyclo{-Suc(1-COOH)-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}

(ad) Cyclo{-Suc(1-OH)-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}

(ae) Cyclo{-Suc(2-COOH)-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}

(af) Cyclo{-Suc(2-OH)-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}

(ag) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(2H-tetrazolyl-5-ylmethyl)amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}. TFA

(ah) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(morpholin-4-yl)]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.TFA

(ai) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-N(CH_3)$_2$]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.TFA

(aj) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(piperidin-4-yl]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.TFA

(ak) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(N(CH_2CH_2OH)$_2$)]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]}.TFA

(al) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(N($CH_2CH(OH)CH_2OH$)]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.TFA

(am) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(3-carboxypropanoyl)amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.

(an) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-[3-N'-ß-D-glucopiranos-1-yl)-carboxamidopropanoyl]amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2NH]-}

(ao) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-[(carboxymethyl)amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}. TFA

(ap) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-[N'-ß-D-glucopiranos-1-yl)-carboxyamidomethyl]amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-} TFA

All Cont.

(aq) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(chinyl)amine]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}

(ar) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-(4-aminobutanoyl)amino]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2- NH]-} TFA

(as) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-[1,4')bipiperidin-1-yl]acetamido]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-} TFA

(at) Cyclo{-Suc[1-N-(ß-D-glucopiranos-1-yl)-carboxyamido]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}

(au) Cyclo{-Suc[1(S)-[N'-(2-N-acetyl-ß-D-glucopiranos-1-yl)-carboxyamido]-Trp-Phe-[(R)-NH-CH(CH_2-C_6H_5)-CH_2-NH]-}.

5. (Amended) A composition comprising a compound of general formula (I) according to Claim 1 in combination with a suitable carrier or excipients.

6. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 5, adapted for use as tachykinin antagonists.

7. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 6, adapted for use as antagonists of the human NK-2 receptor.

8. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 7, adapted for use in the treatment of the bronchospastic and inflammatory component of asthma, coughing, pulmonary irritation, intestinal spasms, spasms of the biliary tract, local spasms of the bladder and of the ureter during cystitis, and kidney infections and colics.

9. (Amended) A composition according to Claim 7, adapted for use as anxiolytics.

10. (Amended) A method of antagonizing tachykinin in a mammal in need thereof comprising contacting tachykinin peptide receptors with a compound according to Claim 1 for a time and under conditions effective to antagonize said tachykinin receptors.

11. (Amended) A method of antagonizing an NK-2 receptor in a mammal in need thereof comprising contacting an NK-2 receptor with a compound according to Claim 1 for a time and under conditions effective to antagonize an NK-2 receptor.

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12. (Amended) A method of antagonizing an NK-2 receptor in a mammal afflicted with asthma comprising contacting an NK-2 receptor with a compound according to Claim 1 for a time and under conditions effective to antagonize an NK-2 .

13. (Amended) A method of antagonizing an NK-2 receptor in a mammal afflicted with an anxiety disorder comprising contacting an NK-2 receptor with a compound according to Claim 1 for a time and under conditions effective to antagonize an NK-2 receptor.

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15. (New) A mixture comprising two or more compounds according to Claim 1.